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OVERALL REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21

Draft report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole

Rapporteur: Czeslaw Wieckowski (Poland)

Addendum

C. Implementation in areas requiring urgent action

3. Means of implementation

1. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole considered paragraphs 76, 77 and 77 bis of section C.3 of the proposed outcome of the special session (A/S-19/14-E/1997/60, section I.B) at its ___th meeting on ___ June 1997.

2. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the following amendments and recommended the paragraphs to the special session for adoption.

(a) Paragraph 76 was revised to read:

"In order to reduce the barriers to the expanded use of economic instruments, Governments and international organizations should collect and share information on the use of economic instruments and introduce pilot schemes that would, inter alia, demonstrate how to make the best use of such instruments while avoiding adverse effects on competitiveness and terms of trade of all countries, particularly on developing countries, and marginalized and vulnerable sectors of society. When introducing economic instruments that raise the cost of economic activities for households and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), Governments should consider gradual phase-ins, public education programmes and targeted technical assistance as strategies for reducing distributional impacts. Various

studies and practical experiences in a number of countries, in particular developed countries, indicate that the appropriate use of relevant economic instruments may help generate positive possibilities for shifting consumer and producer behaviour to more sustainable directions in those countries. There is, however, a need to conduct further studies and test practical experiences in more countries, taking into account country-specific conditions, and the acceptability, legitimacy, equity, efficiency and effectiveness of such economic instruments."